

We claim:

1. A laminate material sized and structured for making furniture pieces and the like, comprising:

a plurality of wood layers alternating with layers composed of artificial fibers, wherein the number and size of each layer is selected to provide the laminate with predetermined structural and aesthetic characteristics.

2. The laminate of claim 1 wherein said artificial fibers are selected from the group consisting of carbon fibers and fiberglass.

3. The laminate of claim 1 wherein said wood layers are selected from wood fibers having mechanical characteristics matching the characteristics of the artificial fiber layers.

4. The laminate of claim 1 wherein said wood layers are selected from group consisting of balsa, ash, birch, fir, pine and walnut.

5. The laminate of claim 1 further comprising two outer skins formed by wood layers.

6. A furniture piece comprising:  
a first member formed of a support laminate material; and a second member formed of a thin laminate material; wherein laminate materials include two outer wood

veneer layers, two artificial fiber layers having high structural support properties and an inner wood layer, at least some of the wood layers of said support laminate material being thicker than some of the wood layers of the thin laminate material.

7. A furniture piece comprising:

a first member formed of a support laminate material; and a second member formed of a platform laminate material; wherein said support laminate material includes two outer wood veneer layers, two artificial fiber layers having high structural support properties and an inner wood layer; and wherein said platform laminate material includes two outer wood veneer layer and an inner layer made of material resistive to warping.

8. The furniture piece of claim 7 wherein said inner layer includes a core made of a hard wood and a frame surrounding said core.

9. A furniture piece comprising:

a first set of elements formed of a thin laminate material and a second set of elements formed of a support laminate material;

wherein said laminate materials are formed of alternating layers of wood and a structural component having a high structural strength, wherein the structural component in said support laminate material is substantially thicker than the structural component in said thin laminate material.

10. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein said first set of elements includes a plurality of legs.

11. The furniture piece of claim 10 wherein said second set of elements include at least one curved element forming a structural support.

12. The furniture piece of claim 9 further comprising a platform element formed of a platform laminate material including a core panel made of a light material and a laminated frame.

13. The furniture piece of claim 12 wherein said platform laminate material further includes two veneer layers.

14. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein said thin laminate material includes three layers of wood veneer interspersed with two layers of carbon fiber layers.

15. The furniture piece of claim 14 wherein said support laminate material includes three layers of wood veneer interspersed with two layers of carbon fiber layers, the support laminate materials being formed with a central wood layer that is thicker than the central wood layer of the thin laminate material.

16. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein said structural component is one of a carbon fiber layer and a fiberglass layer.

17. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein the structural component in said support laminate material is a plain weave carbon fiber layer having a weight of about 5.7 oz.

18. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein the structural component in said thin laminate material is a twill carbon fiber layer having a weight of about 8.3 oz.

19. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein said first and second set of elements cooperate to form a chair.

20. The furniture piece of claim 9 wherein said first and second set of elements cooperate to form a table.